TOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) The Steel Development Fund (SDF) was constituted in June, 1978 to assist inter alia the modernisation and development programmes of the Steel Sector.

The Steel Development Fund has been utilised mainly to provide loans to steel producers for financing schemes, projects and capital expenditure for modernisation, diversification and improvement of the technology and efficiency of iron and steel production.

The SDF has helped the main steel producers in financing their modernisation and expansion plans. However, after the deregulation of steel prices w.e.f. 16.1.92, the Main producers of Steel represented that the SDF levy may be discontinued because it placed them at a disadvantage vis-a-vis other domestic producers and also against imported steel on which no SDF contribution was required to be paid. After examining all the relevant issues, SDF levy was discontinued w.e.f. 21/22.4.94. There is no proposal to revive the SDF levy. However, the Joint Plant Committee continues to be responsible for the management and operation of the corpus of the Steel Development Fund and interest received and accrued thereon under the directions of the SDF Managing Committee.

Payment of Arrears to CPWD Employees

7521. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2581 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th August, 1994 and state:

(a) the number of Lift Operators who retired from service since October, 1988 till date in Electric Division III, C.P.W.D., Delhi but have not been paid arrears of revised pay scales as per the Arbitration Award;

(b) the names of lift operators who have not been paid arrears so far and the amount due to each of them; and

(c) what action Government proposed to take to pay the arrears at the earliest.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Five Lift Operators have retired from Service since October, 1988 till date in the Electric Division III, C.P.W.D. All have been paid arrears of revised pay scale as per Arbitration Award.

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

DDA's New Pattern Scheme, 1979

7522. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of allotments of MIG/LIG flats under New Pattern/HUDCO scheme of 1979 made by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to various applicants, have refused the allotment and applied for final cancellation;

(b) if so, the number of such applications received so far;

(c) whether the registration fee alongwith interest accrued thereon has been refunded to them by DDA;

(d) if so, procedure and the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) DDA has reported that about 1185 allottees under the MIG category and about 360 allottees under the LIG category have requested for cancellation of allotment made to them during the year 1994-95 under the New Pattern Registration Scheme, 1979 and have asked for refund of their registration money.

(c) to (e) Refund of registration money alongwith interest thereon is a continous process. The applications for refund of registration money are processed for cancellation of allotment and thereafter refund cheques are issued after taking into consideration the registration amount alongwith interest accrued thereon and after deducting cancellation charges. During the year 1994-95, refund cheques have been issued in respect of 1147 MIG cases and 193 LIG cases under the New Pattern Registration Scheme, 1979.

Complaints pending with CPWD Authorities of Panchkuain Road Quarters

7523. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints from the allottees of Type-I double storey quarters of Panchkuain Road, New Delhi regarding unsatisfactory maintenance work of all the quarters;

(b) whether new kitchens have been built in the quarters of Panchkuain Road, New Delhi by CPWD authorities in the year 1994 but could not give proper maintenance and could not provide window panes etc.; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in affirmative, the reasons therefor and what penal action has been taken or being taken against guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Complaints pertaining to seepage, replacement of terrace tanks, doors, window shutters etc. were received by the Central Public Works Department. These complaints relate to special nature of maintenance and are being attended to in a phased manner.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Construction of Kitchens has been done by the CPWD as per the drawings approved by NDMC. The drawings do not permit provision of shutters over the Kitchen verandah grill. In case, it is provided, it would affect the light and ventilation of the room which is against the NDMC norms.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) and (b) above.

Programmes in the Municipalities/ Corporation in West Bengal

7524. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many schemes were received by the Central Government for developmental programmes in the Municipalities/Corporation in the district of Darjeeling in West Bengal during the last three years;

(b) the details of schemes approved; and

(c) the funds allocated and released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns (IDSMT), project report of one town in Darjeeling district, namely, Mirik, has been received during the last three years. The project report was approved in 1993-94 and Central Assistance (1st instalment) of Rs. 6.00 lakhs released to the State government out of the maximum eligible Central Assistance of Rs. 12 lakhs. Details of